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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

CLAIMS WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. (Original) A method of controlling the relative position of a plurality of optical exposures of a photosensitive material, comprising:

making an exposure of the photosensitive material by illuminating it with a pattern of light to create therein a corresponding latent exposure pattern;

imaging the exposed photosensitive material to reveal and determine the position of the latent exposure pattern; and

controlling the position of at least one further exposure of the photosensitive material based on the determined position of the latent exposure pattern.

- 2. (Original) A method according to claim 1 wherein the exposed photosensitive material is imaged at a different wavelength from said first-mentioned or further exposures.
- 3. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 or 2-wherein the photosensitive material comprises an indicative material sensitive to the local extent of the exposure and which in said imaging step reveals exposed areas of the photosensitive material.
- 4. (Original) A method according to claim 3 wherein said indicative material is sensitive to exposure-induced chemical changes in the photosensitive material.
- 5. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 3 or 4-wherein said indicative material comprises a fluorescent or luminescent substance.

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- 6. (Currently Amended) A method according to any one of the preceding claims claim1 wherein said pattern of light is a pattern which regularly repeats in two or three dimensions.
- 7. (Original) A method according to claim 6 wherein said pattern of light is such as to define in the photosensitive material regions of the photosensitive material for forming a photonic crystal lattice.
- 8. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 6 or 7 wherein said pattern of light is an interference pattern formed by the intersection of plural light beams in the photosensitive material.
- 9. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 7 or 8-wherein the further exposure is such as to define a modification to the photonic crystal lattice.
- 10. (Original) A method according to claim 9 wherein said modification is a discontinuity for defining a structure operable as waveguide or resonator.
- 11. (Currently Amended) A method according to any one of the preceding claims claim 1 wherein the at least one further exposure is made by multiple-photon absorption in the photosensitive material.
- 12. (Currently Amended) A method according to any one of the preceding claims claim 1 wherein the further exposure is by a writing light beam illuminating a selectable position in the photosensitive material defined with respect to the imaged latent exposure pattern.
- 13. (Original) A method according to claim 12 wherein the writing light beam is formed by a confocal microscope.

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- 14. (Currently Amended) A method according to any one of the preceding claims claim 1 wherein the imaging is by a confocal microscope or scanning focussed laser beam.
- 15. (Currently Amended) A method according to any one of the preceding claims claim 1 wherein the step of imaging forms a three dimensional image of the latent exposure pattern in the photosensitive material.
- 16. (Currently Amended) A method according to any one of the preceding claims claim 1 wherein the photosensitive material comprises a photo-acid generator and each exposure causes the dissociation of the photo-acid generator, to form acid that acts as a latent catalyst for subsequent chemical development processes.
- 17. (Original) A method according to claim 16 in which the local acid concentration is determined in the imaging step by changes in the optical absorption or emission characteristics of an acid-sensitive dye included in the photosensitive material.
- 18. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 16 or 17 in which the wavelength of said at least one further exposure is chosen so as to cause the dissociation of a photobase generator included in the photosensitive material that locally neutralizes the photoacid generated in earlier exposures.
- 19. (Currently Amended) A method according to any one of the preceding claims claim 1 wherein the photosensitive material is a cross-linkable epoxy resin precursor.
- 20. (Currently Amended) A method according to any one of the preceding claims claim 1 comprising alternately repeating said imaging and further exposure steps to build-up a desired latent exposure pattern.

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- 21. (Currently Amended) A method of forming a structure in a photosensitive material by performing a plurality of exposures of the material controlled according to the method of any one of the preceding claims claim 1 and developing the photosensitive material after said further exposure to remove regions of photosensitive material selectively on the basis of their exposure level.
- 22. (Original) A method according to claim 21 wherein the developing step comprises at least one of chemical and thermal treatment.
- 23. (Currently Amended) A method of forming an optical element by using a structure formed in accordance with the method of claim 21 or 22 as a template to define the optical element in a material of selected optical properties.
- 24. (Currently Amended) A method of forming an optical element by forming a structure in accordance with the method of claim 21 or 22 in a material having selected optical properties.